

SKETCHES OF ADAIR COUNTY.

Historical and Biographical that
Will be of Interest to all
Readers of the News.

BY: JUDGE H. C. BAKER.

No. 20.

ADAIR COUNTY IN THE WAR OF 1812-1815.

"We have heretofore mentioned the fact that Adair county was well represented in the war of 1812-15.

Judge Rollin Hurt has prepared an article on the service of soldiers from the county in that war, which he permits us to use. Its perusal will prove of great interest to the readers of the News.

It is as follows:

The first soldiers, who appear to have been enlisted from Adair county in the second war with England were the members of Capt. John W. Shirley's company of Barbee's regiment. The officers were John W. Shirley, Captain; Thomas Turk, Lieutenant; Andrew Wagoner, ensign; Robert Young, Garland Gupton and Robert Morrison, sergeants; and William Walker, John Sneed and William Young, corporals; Stephen Stone and Chas. Thomas did duty as fifers. The other members of the company were Job Atkinson, Samuel Allen, Robert Bowman, Randolph Bryant, John Bryant, Nathan Barnett, Adam Beas, Larkin Brumley, David Breeding, Ambrose Brockman, John Barger, Thomas Carter, Ira Cravens, Munn Conover, (whose real name was Dominicus Conover,) Jesse Clark, Henry Cook, Nathan Coffey, David Conover, James Duncan, William Davenport, Joshua Duncan, Geo. Depree, William Diddle, John Davidson, Marshal Estes, Robert Fletcher, James Gilman, James Gilbraith, John Handy, Benjamin Hailey, Hiram Hancock, George Hughes, Samuel Isaacs, Thomas James, James Johnson, Walter James, George Knell, Thomas Luttrill, Burton Litton, Edward Lawless, William Lawson, Andrew Link, Chas. Moore, Joseph McMillan, James McKinley, Jesse Montgomery, George Morrison, Michael McKinley, John T. McElroy, John Patterson, Wm. Polly, Wm. R. Price, Robert Rose, Brice Richards, Green Selby, John Sheffield, Wm. Smith, Jonathan Salley, Joshua Sampson, James Vincent, John White, William Wisdom, and Charles Wheeler.

This company was enlisted on the 23rd day of August, 1812, and for a period of six months, and contained seventy-four members, officers and men. Lieut. Col. Joseph Barbee, who then resided at Danville, Ky., was the Colonel of the regiment to which Capt. Shirley's company was assigned. The original purpose of the organization of the regiment was to do duty in the defense of the state of Indiana, which was then being threatened by the enemy. The different companies of the regiment rendezvoused at Danville, within a few days of the order for its formation. About the time the companies came together at Danville, information of the disgraceful surrender of Gen. Hull's

army and the city of Detroit, Mich., became known. The morning following the day of the rendezvous at Danville, Col. Barbee received orders to change the march of his regiment for the northwest, and to proceed with all dispatch. The regiment immediately commenced a march for Cincinnati, O., and in making the march passed through Nicholasville, Lexington and Georgetown, and encamped for three or four days upon the farm of one Kennedy, where the city of Covington is now situated. After crossing over the Ohio river, the regiment, including Capt. Shirley's company, proceeded to Piqua, on the Miami river. From this point the regiment marched to St. Mary's, Ohio, which was then called "Girty's Town." On the way it passed through Lebanon and Dayton, Ohio, both of which places were then villages. At St. Mary's, the regiment was placed under the immediate command of General Winchester, by whose orders six companies of the regiment, including Capt. Shirley's, were stationed at St. Mary's, during the following winter. Col. Allen's and Col. Lewis' regiments of infantry were stationed during the winter at and in the neighborhood of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Col. Jennings' regiment was stationed during the winter at Fort Jennings, on the Au Glaize river, twenty-six miles to the north of St. Mary's. Col. Poague's regiment was stationed at a point further to the north than that of Jennings. Capt. McNair's company, of Col. Barbee's regiment, spent the winter at Waughpaugh Kanetta, then an Indian village twelve miles from St. Mary's. Capt. Peterson's company, of Barbee's regiment, was ordered to and spent the winter at Fort Wayne, which was sixty miles from St. Mary's. It devolved upon the six companies of Barbee's regiment, which were stationed at St. Mary's, and which included Capt. Shirley's company, to act as convoys for and to escort and protect the wagons and pack horses, which conveyed provisions from St. Mary's to the various posts named, and in this duty they were constantly engaged throughout the winter. The winter was excessively severe. The streams were frozen over, and the snow lay upon the ground to the depth of two feet during the entire winter. The men, when enlisted, did not expect that the campaign would last over three months, and this together with the haste of their mobilization and march to Ohio prevented them from making sufficient arrangements in the way of clothing for comfort, and until nearly Christmas they were very poorly clad. The greater number of them were clad in hunting shirts and trousers made of linen or cotton, and after two or three months the clothing became badly worn and afforded but scant protection to men who were obliged to travel in the open in the conveying of provisions and to spend the nights upon the ground, without the shelter of tents. Gov. Isaac Shelby made an appeal to the women of Kentucky for clothing for the naked soldiers. This appeal received an immediate response and as soon as it could be conveyed to them, the soldiers received a supply of home manu-

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factured clothing from their
mothers and sisters in Kentucky.

During the winter Col. Barbee's regiment was required to and made a forced march from St. Mary's to Fort Jennings. The movement was for the protection of Gen. Winchester, who was threatened with attack by a superior force of the enemy near Fort Defiance. When the regiment reached Fort Jennings, on the Au Glaize, it was ordered to return to St. Mary's. This forced march is said to have been one of the most severe and exhausting in the annals of military history. A very cold rain, which turned to ice, fell incessantly, the road was new and boggy, the ground was covered with ice and snow, and the men, at night, were without shelter of tents.

About the first of March, 1813, the term of service having expired, the regiment was marched to Cincinnati, O., a distance of about one hundred miles from St. Mary's, where it was discharged. The men were paid in part for their services, and the men of Capt. Shirley's company reached their home in Adair county about the middle of March, 1813.

The members of this company have all long since passed away. The descendants of many of them, however, still reside in the county. The names borne by nearly all of those old soldiers are yet the names of old families in the county. Lieutenant Thomas Turk resided during the remainder of his life upon a farm, which is situated four miles to the west of Columbia, upon Pettitsfork, and was the ancestor of the family of Turk, which until recent years was a very numerous and respectable family

in the county, but is now from emigration become extinct in the county.

CAPT. JOHN BUTLER'S COMPANY.
About the first of September, 1812, Gov. Ninian Edwards, of Illinois Territory, appealed to Gov. Isaac Shelby for aid in protecting the frontier settlements of Indiana and Illinois Territories from the devastations of the Indians. On September 8th, 1812, Gov. Shelby issued a proclamation to the people of Kentucky to go to the assistance of their neighbors in the Indiana and Illinois Territories. He requested them to rendezvous at Louisville, Ky., on September 18th, 1812, and to provide themselves with thirty days provisions. In response to the proclamation, five regiments of mounted militia assembled at Louisville, at the time appointed. Among these troops was a company of volunteers from Adair county, under the command of Capt. John Butler, who figured so prominently in the early history of the county. The lieutenant of the company was Robert Trabue, who bore another old family name in the county. James Leber was the ensign; William Pile, Thomas Shaw, Thomas W. Atkinson and John Walker were the sergeants of the company; and Abraham Hart, Isiah Bradshaw, Charles L. Cox and James Redman were the corporals. The other members of the company were Merideth Archer, John Abrel, Wm. W. Abel, Samuel Baldrige, Daniel Bohman, Samuel Beard, Hugh Beard, James Blane, Peter Buckingham, Durham Creel, Silas Creel, Simon Creel, Wm. Conover, Sampson Caskey, Hiram Cravens, Richard Cundiff, Geo.

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len, Samuel Caldwell, and John Thomas, respectively.

To be continued next week.

Unifying Influence.

"In my own mind I am convinced that not a hundred years of peace could have knitted this Nation together as this single year of war has knitted it together, and, better ever than that if possible, it is knitting the world together. Look at the picture: In the center of the scene 4 nations engaged against the world, and at every point of vantage showing that they are seeking selfish aggrandizement; and against them 23 Governments representing the greater part of the population of the world, drawn together into a new sense of community of purpose a new sense of unity of life."—(From the President's Red Cross Speech.)